

Scott	Stupak	Vento
Serrano	Thompson (CA)	Visclosky
Shays	Thompson (MS)	Waters
Sherman	Thurman	Watt (NC)
Slaughter	Tierney	Waxman
Smith (NJ)	Towns	Weiner
Snyder	Udall (CO)	Wexler
Stark	Udall (NM)	Woolsey
Strickland	Velázquez	Wynn

NOT VOTING—8

Brady (TX)	Kolbe	Maloney (NY)
Buyer	Lantos	Rush
Hyde	Lofgren	

□ 1356

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts and Mr. STUPAK changed their vote from "aye" to "no."

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPORT CONCERNING EMIGRATION LAWS AND POLICIES OF MONGOLIA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 100-19)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

On September 4, 1996, I determined and reported to the Congress that Mongolia was not in violation of the freedom of emigration criteria of sections 402(a) and 409(a) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended. This action allowed for the continuation of normal trade relations status for Mongolia and certain other activities without the requirement of an annual waiver.

As required by law, I am submitting an updated report to the Congress concerning the emigration laws and policies of Mongolia. The report indicates continued Mongolian compliance with U.S. and international standards in the area of emigration.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 11, 1999.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 391, the bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

PRESIDENTIAL AND EXECUTIVE OFFICE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1999

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I

call up House Resolution 44 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 44

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 437) to provide for a Chief Financial Officer in the Executive Office of the President. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Government Reform. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The bill shall be considered as read. During consideration of the bill for amendment, the chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read. The chairman of the Committee of the Whole may: (1) postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any amendment; and (2) reduce to five minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any postponed question that follows another electronic vote without intervening business, provided that the minimum time for electronic voting on the first in any series of questions shall be 15 minutes. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

□ 1400

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GUTKNECHT). The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) is recognized for one hour.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 44 is an open rule providing for consideration of H.R. 437, the Presidential and Executive Office Financial Accountability Act of 1999, a bill that will build on the success of the CFO, Chief Financial Officers Act of 1990, by providing a CFO in the Executive Office of the President of the United States.

H. Res. 44 is an open rule, providing one hour of general debate, divided equally between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Government Reform. The rule provides that the bill will be for consideration as read. Members who have preprinted their amendments in

the record prior to their consideration will be given priority in recognition to offer their amendments if otherwise consistent with House rules.

The rule allows for the chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes during consideration of the bill and to reduce votes to 5 minutes on a postponed question if the vote follows a 15 minute vote. Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation builds on the legislation the House passed just this week, the Mandates Information Act, by making the Federal Government more accountable. Additionally, it is one more example of a common theme in this Republican Congress, making the Federal Government accountable to the American people.

As an original cosponsor and advocate of the identical legislation, H.R. 1962, that passed the House 413 to 3 in the 105th Congress, I am pleased that the Presidential and Executive Financial Accountability Act is before us today. The other body was unable to take up this important legislation in the last Congress.

This legislation brings the agencies of the Executive Office of the President under the requirements of the Chief Financial Officers, or CFO, Act. The CFO Act was inspired by the realization that billions of dollars was lost through waste, fraud and abuse in the Federal Government each year.

As chairman of the Results Caucus, a bipartisan team of Members focused on ridding our Federal Government of its major management problems, I have seen report after report which has focused on insufficient and inefficient financial management systems that fail to produce consistent and reliable data.

In fact, the General Accounting Office in a report issued in January of this year gave details about the Department of Defense's accounting system. It reported that "over \$9 billion in known military operating materials and supplies were not reported." That same Defense Department did not have reliable information on important items of inventory, including "the number and location of military equipment items, such as F-4 engines and service craft."

The CFO Act was designed to improve financial management and to coordinate internal controls and financial accounting. Chief Financial Officers oversee all financial management activities in their agencies and report directly to the head of an agency on financial matters. It certainly is clear that such practices are needed in the White House.

This legislation fixes an oversight in the original CFO Act. Unfortunately, the original act never applied to the Executive Office of the President. H.R. 437, the Presidential and Executive Office Accountability Act of 1999, will do